years ago. The agriculturists were, therefore, not able to cultivate their lands in the locality. Judged from the point of view of population, area and revenue, Muvattupuzha taluk deserved a prominent place among other taluks and could legitimately claim the expenditure of an adequate amount on public works. Not only was no adequate provision made, but even the sanctioned allotments were allowed to lapse. That was most unsatisfactory. If it was found that any work for which budget provision was made was not duly carried out during the year in which such provision was made, exemplary punishment should be meted out to the officers at fault. The member prayed that, at least in 1102, the sanctioned amounts should be spent for the works concerned without fail.

In conclusion, the member requested that the following works be attended to early :—

(1) Completion of—
- (*a*) the Muvattupuzha-Arakuzha road ;
- (*b*) the Maradi-Mannattur road ; and
- (*c*) the Anchalpatti-Ramangalam road.

(2) Opening of—
- (*a*) a road from Varapatti to Neduvakad *via* Pottanikad ;
- (*b*) the Trikkariyur-Vettilapara road ;
- (*c*) a road from Karakunnam to join the Kotamangalam-Perumbavur road *via* Mulavur ;
- (*d*) a village road from Kotamangalam passing through Nadukani, Peruvinnur, and other places ;
- (*e*) a village road from Pezhakkapalli to Mulavur ;
- (*f*) a village road from Piravam to Elanji ; and
- (*g*) a trace from the Neriamangalam road, 4th mile, to the banks of the Periyar *via* Peruvinnur.

(3) Construction of a bridge across the Kotamangalam river on the Kotamangalam-Vazhakulam road.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Varki Abraham, as regards new roads which you want, the Chief Engineer will have them investigated and if found necessary, he will call for estimates and try to have them taken up as early as possible.

As regards your remarks re money allotted for public works lapsing, that is something due to overzeal in making sure of the money before starting the work. It is an error on the right side because it indicates that there is a very real desire to get on with the work or to get the money a little early. So, sometimes the money lapses. You refer to a bridge left unfinished at the 10th mile of the Talayola-parambu-Kuttattukulam road; the reason why it has not been completed is that some girders are not yet ready and they are expected shortly.

MEMBER : It is four years since it was started.

DEWAN : The matter is being expedited. It is not a small item. The estimated cost of the road is about a lakh of rupees and the work will naturally spread over a certain number of years.

All the other matters will be noted and action taken.

66. Communications in the Parur taluk.

MR. LONA OUSEPH (*Member, Parur taluk*) said that representations for the improvement of the means of communication in the Parur taluk were as old as the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly itself but that no substantial improvements had been made. Parur was not backward in point of population or revenue, but it was rarely visited by the higher officers to ascertain the local needs of the people. The Government should therefore take up the question of communications in the Parur taluk and redress the long-standing grievances of the people. The following works were absolutely necessary for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Parur taluk : —

(1) Metalling the Chattanad-Munambam road.

(2) Construction of a bridge across the Palattunkalpuzha near the Kottakali church.

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(3) Metalling the road from Varapuzha to Parur town so as to make it fit for cart traffic.

(4) Improvement of the village road from the lighthouse to the Kadakkara *chowkey* and restoration of the western bund of the canal there.

The abovesaid roads were absolutely necessary for the use of the inhabitants of Varapuzha, Munambam, Chattanad, etc., who had to go to the town for attending schools and courts. For want of proper roads and bridges, the people were put to much hardship. The construction of the bridge at Palattunkalpuzha was sanctioned four years ago, but the work had not been finished. Daily 400 to 500 children had to cross and recross the canal and sometimes loss of lives had occurred. The bridge should therefore be finished soon.

On account of the absence of bridges and owing to the bad condition of roads, a journey from the Parur town to Varapuzha, Kottapalli, Ezhikara, Chattanad or Munambam took 3 to 4 hours, while, if the roads were made fit for motor traffic, the same could be finished in 15 minutes.

As regards water-ways, the member said that the following works were urgent :—

(1) Opening a branch as far as the western bund of the canal running outside the bund from Tottumukham *chowkey*.

(2) Widening the canal from the first end of the northern bund comprised in Survey No. 8/10 and extension of the same further south as far as possible.

In regard to the latter, the member said that, if the canal be extended as far as the lands comprised in Survey Nos. 17/3, 4 and 5 by the acquisition of the necessary lands, the expenditure on account of the extension would be met by the people.

An extent of 200 acres of wet land lying at the western extremity of the taluk was being spoilt on account of its nearness to sea and the inrush of brackish water. The ryots owning the lands were therefore put to great loss. If the above canals were opened, it would facilitate the flow of fresh water to the wet lands and thereby benefit the ryots.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Lona Ouseph, the question of metalling the Chattanad-Parur road will be taken up after the Vadakkekara bridge is completed and after the more important Parur-Muvattupuzha road is gravelled.

The bridge at Palattunkalpuzha you refer to is the Vadakkekara bridge. The reason why it has not been taken up is that heavy floods washed away the materials. A revised estimate has just been forwarded and is under sanction, and materials are being arranged for to proceed with the work.

The road from Varapuzha to Parur town touches the Parur-Edapalli road. An estimate for this road has been called for.

The question of opening a branch canal as far as the western bund of the canal referred to is a matter which requires investigation.

67. The Vellanadi--Cheruvalli Road.

MR. S. N. URE (*Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association*) stated that his object in bringing the matter again before the Assembly was rather to enquire what was being done in regard to the road than to advocate its advisability. The Government had admitted the need for the road and money was actually provided for its construction, but eventually it was decided to open the Kanjirapalli road instead. When the subject was brought up at the previous session, it was stated that a revised estimate was under preparation and that, if the estimate was reasonable, the work would be provided for at an early date. The member said that his Association enquired whether the estimate had been submitted and, if so, whether it was found to be practicable.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Ure, in regard to this road, owing to the excessive cost of that line, the Public Works Department made further explorations and investigations, and they propose to carry on the road from the end of the Vellanadi Estate road to the first mile of the Cheruvalli Estate road. This connection will have short

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